

American Diploma Project (ADP) Policy Panel Recommendations

Recommendation 1: Kentucky's educational P-16 partners will align pre-service and professional development activities with refined content standards reflecting the benchmarks developed by the American Diploma Project (ADP), as described in 2(b.), 3(a.), and 4(c.):

- a. The Kentucky Department of Education (KDE) will partner with the Education Professional Standards Board (EPSB) and the Council on Postsecondary Education (CPE) to align pre-service, internship, and professional development with these refined content standards;
- b. The CPE, the Cabinet for Workforce Development (CWD), and the Department of Adult Education and Literacy will align adult education professional development to these refined postsecondary and workforce expectations; and
- c. The CPE will include within its statewide faculty development effort programs that familiarize postsecondary faculty with refined K-12 standards and with emerging standards for college learning.

Recommendation 2: Kentucky's P-16 educators will align writing programs and initiatives:

- a. The KDE will convene higher education, business, and elementary and secondary educators to reach an agreement on the appropriate components of transactive writing for the analytical writing expectations of postsecondary and workplace purposes.
- b. Concurrent with (a), the CPE will facilitate a discussion with postsecondary administrators and the workforce to pilot a program for admissions, placement, and hiring purposes; and
- c. Postsecondary institutions and the workforce will use results from the writing portfolio for admissions, placement, and hiring purposes.

Recommendation 3: The KBE, the KDE, the CPE, and the CWD will strengthen Kentucky's educational expectations around mastery of refined content standards based on the benchmarks developed by the ADP.

- a. Examine core requirements and consider end-of-course assessments or other assessments to demonstrate proficiency against refined content standards
- b. Use occupational skills certificates as a means to demonstrate mastery of standards.
- c. Align adult literacy and numeracy standards to refined standards.
- d. The KBE, the KDE, the CPE, and the CWD will develop reliable means to assess and report individual student performance measured against refined standards to be used beyond school and district accountability.
 1. Clarify what CATS' scores can and can't do beyond school and district accountability.

Recommendation 4: The P-16 Council will request that the KBE examine existing graduation requirements.

- a. Assume a curriculum that prepares all students to succeed in postsecondary education and the workforce.
 - 1. Elementary, secondary, workforce, and the new economy will help define rigor regarding courses.
 - 2. Local P-16 Councils will engage in a conversation about what it would take for students to meet the entrance requirements of postsecondary institutions and workforce.
- b. Conduct predictive validity studies of postsecondary performance and persistence related to:
 - 1. Course-taking patterns including Algebra II and four years of math; and
 - 2. Student performance, as measured against refined standards.
- c. The KDE, postsecondary education, and business leaders will consolidate the Program of Studies and Core Content into one user-friendly document.
 - 1. This document will be aligned with emerging postsecondary and workforce readiness standards based on benchmarks developed by the ADP.

Recommendation 5: The P-16 Council will work with all agencies to develop a communication plan to educate citizens regarding postsecondary and new economy expectations for high school graduates:

- a. Send message from the postsecondary and business communities to Legislature regarding the success of KERA;
- b. Continue funding local P-16 Councils; and
- c. Connect K-12 learning with Kentucky's new economy needs (Seeding Innovation)

The P-16 Council's ADP subcommittee will meet April 23, 2003 to add policy questions to include strategies and timelines required by the respective boards needed to implement these recommendations.

A "draft" work plan will presented for discussion at the June 10, 2003 P-16 Council meeting.